**Unit One**

**Foundations of American Government**

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Unit One

**Foundations of American Government**

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| **Unit Title:** Constitutional Beginnings |
| **Grade:** 12 |
| **Ability Level:** Foundations |
| **PA Academic Standards**: 5.1.12D, 5.1.12E, 5.2.12A |
| **Designed by**: Tim Cunningham |
| **Time Frame:** 2 weeks |
| **School District:** Nazareth Area School District |
| **School:** Nazareth Area High School |

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| Enduring Understandings | |
| Students will understand …   * The origins of government have evolved throughout history. * That basic principles guide the creation of the United States’ Constitution. * The creation of our government system and Constitution was a product of intense debate and varied concessions. * The structure of U.S. Constitution as a document. | |
| Essential Questions | |
| Students will be able to answer the following questions…  * What are the contents of each component of the Constitution? * How has the Constitution changed over time? * What are the issues that have been produced by the Constitution’s changes? * How have the basic principles shaped the Constitution and the U.S. government? | |
| Learning Objectives | |
| Students will be able to…  * Identify the events of the Constitutional Convention. * Compare and contrast the perspectives of the framers. * Identify the components of the Constitution and Amendments. * Analyze the principles in action in our government today. | |
| Learning Plan | |
| Day  One | * Warm-Up: What is government? * Lecture-Discussion: “Evidence of Government and its Origins” * Homework: Worksheet Chapter 1, Section 1. |
| Day  Two | * Warm-Up: Word Splash for Constitution * Activity: Create a fact sheet for the Constitutional Convention listing the 5Ws and the biggest conflicts. * Homework review: Ch1.1 Worksheet * Lecture-Discussion: “Convention of Compromises” * Homework: Review Worksheet on the Convention |
| Day Three | * Warm-Up: The US Constitution * In-Class Activity: *Breaking down the Document* Worksheet. Identify the main parts of the Constitution. * Lecture-Discussion: “Basic Principles of Government” * Homework: Read Chapter 3 Section 1 /complete worksheet. |
| Day Four | * Warm-Up: Where are the principles? Principle review. * In-Class Activity: Constitutional search for principles. Finding examples of Principles in the Consitution. * Homework: Worksheet for Chapter 1, Section 3. * Homework: Study for Unit 1 Quiz (Convention and Principles) |
| Day  Five | * Warm-Up: Chapter 1 Q & A * Assessment: Chapter 1 Quiz (Convention and Principles) * Lecture-Discussion: “Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes:Amendments” * Activity: Numbering and labeling the 27 Amendments. * Homework: worksheet for Ch3.2 Amendment making. |
| Day  Six | * Warm-Up: Bill of Rights word splash * Lecture-Discussion: “The families of rights in our amendments” * Activity: Bill of Rights scenarios worksheet (coop learning) * Homework: Select 5 objects for Amendment Project |
| Day Seven | * Warm-Up: Amendment Q & A * Lecture-Discussion: “Controversial Amendments” * Activity: Internet Search for legal battles over our amendments. * Homework: Bring 5 Amendment-related objects in bag. |
| Day Eight | * Warm-Up: Poll of controversial amendments * In-Class Activity: Present objects on amendments. * Review for Unit 1 Test. * Homework: Study for Unit 1 Test. |
| Day  Nine | * Pre Test Q & A * Assessment: Unit One Test. * Homework: Ch10.1 worksheet (Unit 2) |
| Performance Tasks | |
| * Analysis of primary source documents  1. US Constitution 2. US Amendments 3. Population Maps and Charts 4. Various Supreme Court cases and opinions | |
| Formative Assessments | |

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| * Chapter 1 Quiz * Amendments Project * Unit 1 Exam |